

Washington, DC – The Military Coalition, a consortium of over 30 uniformed services and veterans associations representing more than 5.5 million current and former service members, their families, and survivors has announced their strong support and full endorsement of H.R. 333, the Disabled Veterans Tax Termination Act. Rep. Sanford D. Bishop, Jr. (GA-2), the Ranking Member of the House Appropriations Subcommittee on Military Construction and Veteran Affairs introduced H.R. 333 which would allow disabled veterans to receive the full amount of compensation they earned serving their country.

“The Military Coalition has for years looked after the interest of our nation’s service members, veterans, and military families and I am proud to have their support on this vital piece of legislation,” said Congressman Bishop. “Veterans who have been injured during their service to our country have rightfully earned their military retirement pay and VA disability benefits, and it is unjust that our current policies effectively tax these Americans, taking money right out of their pockets. These policies must change and I look forward to working with the Coalition to pass this bill.”

When a veteran receives income from multiple sources, such as from the VA and the Department of Defense, it is known as concurrent receipt. Under current law, many veterans are barred from collecting their VA disability compensation if they also receive military retirement pay, and face a dollar-for-dollar offset despite having earned both benefits while serving their country. The Disabled Veterans Tax Termination Act provides for a comprehensive solution to the concurrent receipt problem by expanding eligibility for concurrent receipt and eliminating the current system’s inequities.

In their letter of support, 32 members of the Coalition thanked Rep. Bishop for his leadership, and made clear that they believe H.R. 333 is the most comprehensive legislation addressing the concurrent receipt problem and represents the Coalition’s ultimate goal on the issue. The Military Coalition, a leading champion for disabled retirees and their families, has vowed to push for passage of H.R. 333 in the 112th Congress.

The full text of the Coalition’s letter to Congressman Bishop is below:

January 25, 2011

The Honorable Sanford D. Bishop
U.S. House of Representatives
Washington, D.C. 20515

Dear Congressman Bishop:

The Military Coalition (TMC), a consortium of uniformed services and veterans associations representing more than 5.5 million current and former servicemembers and their families and survivors, wishes to extend our most sincere support of your bill, H.R. 333, the Disabled

Veterans Tax Termination Act.

The Coalition believes H.R. 333 is the most comprehensive concurrent receipt legislation introduced, as it will eliminate all of the remaining severe inequities for disabled retirees that exist in current statute.

In the Coalition's view, H.R. 333 is our ultimate concurrent receipt goal and has our full endorsement. The Military Coalition has a long history of supporting progress for disabled retirees and we are anxious to continue that progress through the passage of your bill.

The Coalition thanks you for your leadership on issues that will have a profound, lasting impact on disabled retirees and their families and for continuing the work of another Georgian and strong supporter of the military community, former Congressman Jim Marshall.

Sincerely,

The Military Coalition
(signatures enclosed)

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